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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Labor Shortage on the State Farms near Gdansk (Danzig)	DATE DISTR.	6 October 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. A great shortage of hands for work is being felt in the state farms (P.G.R.) around Gdansk, particularly for seasonal work in clearing the beet fields.
2. In this connection a recruiting drive was carried out in the "Three Towns" area (Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot), but the results were not good, for the following reasons:
 - a. The work is hard; the fields are so badly overgrown with weeds that on many of them the beets cannot be seen.
 - b. Payment for labor is comparatively low, amounting to 1,150 zl. for clearing three hectares.
 - c. An area of three hectares has to be cleared by a group of people within 30 days of signing the agreement.
 - d. State farm (P.G.R.) administrations are not able to provide accommodation for seasonal workers, nor give them facilities for preparing food. The journey to work takes up much of the volunteers' time, and little of their pay is left.
3. Because the drive for volunteers did not produce a sufficient number of workers, young people from various workshops are forced to work at weeding "voluntarily" on Sundays. Naturally this action is not popular, but the young people work for fear of the consequences.

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4. Sailors in the PLO (Polish Ocean Lines) reserve are also directed to work on state farms. This caused a dispute with the Gdansk-Gdynia Port Administration, which wanted people free to work at loading and unloading. The PLO authorities were willing to assist the port authorities but the Gdansk Voivodship administration forced the PLO authorities to send all their free personnel to work on the land.

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